

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03022 140754Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /112 W
-----140802Z 066197 /21

O R 140704Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3249
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3022

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR KS JA
SUBJ: ROK/JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT

BEGIN SUMMARY: ROKS AND JAPANESE SOLVE 12 MILE LIMIT
PROBLEM. TWO HUNDRED MILE TERRITORIAL SEA PROBLEM NEXT
ON AGENDA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN AN APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO
FACILITATE DIET RATIFICATION OF ROK/JAPAN CONTINENTAL
SHELF AGREEMENT, ROKG ACQUISCED APRIL 11 TO JAPANESE
REQUEST FOR WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT SMALL AREA
COVERED BY BOTH CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT AND
EXTENSION OF JAPANESE TERRITORIAL SEA TO TWELVE MILES
COULD BE EXCLUDED FROM CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT
AREA. ROKG ASSENT TO GOJ REQUEST WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY
ROKG NOTE REPLYING TO JAPANESE NOTE VERBALE AND
DELIVERED TO JAPANESE MINISTER MAEDA FOLLOWING WHAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 03022 140754Z

JAPANESE EMBASSY DESCRIBED AS ARDUOUS MEETINGS WHICH
LASTED UNTIL 10 AT MIGHT ON APRIL 8 AND 9 AND INVOLVED
A SATURDAY MEETING BETWEEN FONMIN AND JAPANESE AMBASSADOR
AND A FOUR DAY VISIT TO SEOUL BY GAIMUSHO NORTHEAST ASIA
DIVISION CHIEF ENDO. ENDO MADE THE TROP TO SEOUL FOR
EXPRESS PURPOSE OF GETTING ROKG WRITTEN CONFIRMATION AND
ACCORDING TO BOTH MOFA AND JAPANESE EMBASSY DID NOT

ATTEMPT TO DISCUSS OTHER ISSUES WHILE IN KOREA.

2. ACCORDING TOMOFA ACTING ASIA BUREAU CHIEF KONG RO-MYUNG, WHO WAS PRINCIPAL ROK PARTICIPANT IN DISCUSSIONS, ROK NOTE RESCUED GOJ FROM STICKY POSITION IN WHICH IT FOUND ITSELF WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER HATOYAMA TOLD DIET COMMITTEE NOW DELIBREATING CONTENENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT THAT ROKG WOULD PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCES THAT AREA COVERED BY TWELVE MILE LIMIT WOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT AREA. AT THAT TIME ROKG HAD NOT AGREED TO PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCES, SINCE TWELVE MILE TERRITORIAL SEA WAS NOT THEN AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT AND ROKG HAD INTENDED TO GO NO FURTHER THAN OFFICIAL PRESS STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT WHEN TWELVE MILE JAPANESE TERRITORIAL SEA FORMALLY ENACTED, AREA WITHIN IT WOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM ROK/JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT. JAPANESE CHARACTERIZED KOREANS AS EXTREMELY OFFENDED BY HATOYAMA'S DIET STATEMENT WHICH ROKS CHARACTERIZED AS AN AFFRONT TO KOREAN NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. KONG SAID HE TOOK CONSIDERABLE PLEASURE, BEFORE ROK ASSISTANT MINISTER HANDED OVER NOTE TO MAEDA, IN TWEAKING ENDO ABOUT JAPANESE PRESUMPTIOUSNESS AT ASSUMING THAT KOREAN POLICY WAS STILL MADE IN TOKYO. NONETHELESS KOREANS IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS DID PRACTICAL THING BY PROVIDING DESIRED WRITTEN ASSURANCES TO GOJ WHICH REPORTEDLY PROVIDED RATIONALE FOR RETURN TO DIET COMMITTEE SESSION BY JSP AND RESUMPTION OF DELIBERATIONS ON CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 03022 140754Z

3. KONG TOLD EMBASSY APRIL 13 THAT PROSPECTS LOOKED GOOD FOR DIET RATIFICATION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT. JAPANESE PRINCIPALS MABUCHI CONCURRED, SAYING ENDO HAD PREDICTED THE ISSUE WOULD EMERGE FROM COMMITTEE APRIL 22 AND PASS LOWER HOUSE ABOUT APRIL 28.

4. CONCLUSION OF THIS EMBASSY REPORT IS TYPICAL OF PRACTICAL APPROACH ROKG HAS TAKEN RECENTLY TO SOLUTION OF ROK/JAPAN QUESTIONS. ROK/JAPAN COOPERATION IN RECENT MONTHS IN SUCH TOUCHY AREAS AS TOKTO (TAKESHIMA) DISPUTE AND CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT IS IN EMBASSY'S VIEW A PRODUCT NOT ONLY OF GENERAL NECESSITY PERCEIVED ON BOTH SIDES TO GET ALONG, BUT ALSO MORE PARTICULARLY AT THE MOMENT OF ROKG LEADERSHIP'S SPECIAL AFFINITY FOR FUKUDA, AND PRESENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN ROK AND U.S.; BECAUSE OF LATTER PROBLEMS ROKS DO NOT WANT ALSO TO HAVE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE JAPANESE.

5. BOTH SIDES WILL NEED TO WORK TO KEEP SUCH POSITIVE

FACTORS FOREMOST IN MIND, SINCE CIRCUITS PROMISE TO BE
BUSY WITH HEAVIER THAN NORMAL LOAD OF SENSITIVE ISSUES.
FOR A START, ENDO WILL BE BACK IN SEOUL APRIL 16-17 FOR
DISCUSSIONS WITH MOFA ON JAPANESE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE,
WHICH KOREANS ARE LIKELY TO FIND A DIFFICULT PROBLEM
TO DEAL WITH. IN ADDITION, TOKDO PROBLEM COULD POP UP
AGAIN, THERE ARE POLITICAL BRIBERY SCHANDAL PROBLEMS,
AND THERE IS ALWAYS AN ECONOMIC PROBLEM OR TWO. INDEED,
CONTINUED PROGRESSION OF ROK-JAPAN PROBLEMS HAS
JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE SOMEWHAT WORRIED ABOUT EFFECT ON
BI-LATERAL RELATIONS. GIVEN PRESENT NECESSITY FOR PRIME
MINISTER FUKUDA TO MAINTAIN DELICATE POLITICAL BALANCE
IN DIET AND PLACATE OPPOSITON BY ISSUING OCCASIONAL
CRITICAL STATEMENTS ABOUT KOREA, HOWEVER, THEY SEE LITTLE
RELIEF IN SIGHT.
SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTINENTAL SHELF, AGREEMENTS, TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT, MEETING AGENDA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL03022
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770129-0419
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770457/aaaabxes.tel
Line Count: 131
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 993523a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2805593
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK/JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT BEGIN SUMMARY: ROKS AND JAPANESE SOLVE 12 MILE LIMIT PROBLEM. TWO HUNDRED MILE TERRITORIAL SEA PROBLEM
TAGS: PFOR, KS, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/993523a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009